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THE CLASSICAL WEEKLY

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Technically, a new year of The Classical Association of the Atlantic States began on May 1 last, when the annual dues for 1913-1914 became payable by all members. Up to the moment of writing, 334 members have paid dues for the current year; the remaining members are requested to do so at the earliest possible moment.

Practically, however, a new year of the Association begins in the fall. During the past month the booklet which gives a list of the members of the Association has been issued to all members; copies have been mailed also to many hundred others, as an invitation to them to join the Association and profit by the benefits which it bestows on its members.

What has been written above reminds me of correspondence had in May last with one of our members, who lives at a point remote from the places at which our annual meetings have been held and are likely to be held in the future. He expressed himself as having enjoyed *THE CLASSICAL WEEKLY*, and yet as reluctant to pay his dues, because, since he could not attend the annual meetings, he failed to see wherein membership in the Association was of real value to him. He called attention also to the fact that persons living outside the territory of our Association can secure *THE CLASSICAL WEEKLY* by paying only one dollar per year, whereas all who live within the territory of the Association can secure *THE CLASSICAL WEEKLY* only by becoming members of the Association, and paying two dollars per year. This arrangement seemed to him unfair. Since the same charge of unfairness meets me several times a year, and is no doubt made by others who do not write to me at all, I venture to reproduce here in large part the letter written to the member referred to above.

I am glad that you enjoy *THE CLASSICAL WEEKLY*, and I am sure that your feeling of reluctance to pay your dues arises merely from the fact that, as you yourself say, the justice of the arrangement is not immediately apparent to you. I am equally sure that it will become apparent when you consider certain facts and conditions. For instance, I cannot at all agree with you when you say that your membership in The Classical Association of the Atlantic States is "merely nominal" and brings you "no actual benefit". In the same letter in which you make this statement you subscribe to *The Classical Journal* at \$1.00. If you were not a member of the C.A.A.S., that subscription would cost you \$1.50.

Furthermore, it is your privilege as a member of the C.A.A.S. to obtain another valuable periodical, *Classical Philology*, at a cost of \$1.67 per year. If you were not a member of The Classical Association of the Atlantic States, you would have to pay \$3.00. Thus you see that you have an actual saving of \$.50, a possible one of \$1.83, from the membership which you had assumed to be bringing you no actual benefit.

Furthermore, remember that you cannot have *THE CLASSICAL WEEKLY* without the existence of The Classical Association of the Atlantic States. The whole philosophy of cooperation and mutual helpfulness falls to the ground if everyone asks only "What is there in it for me financially?" Every Association for the promotion of a cause must be made up, if it is to succeed, of those who wish not only to be helped but to help. The members must not assume that the only good to be obtained from organization and cooperation is derived from presence at the meetings of the Association. The number of members present at those meetings, as in the case of every Association, is but a small fraction of the total membership. But the sense of solidarity, of united effort toward a common goal, of the presence of an outward and visible sign of an inward unity, is a thing not lightly to be given up.

Many of the members who do attend the meetings, who help to make them a success, do so at the cost of time and money and energy which they can ill spare. But they give willingly and gladly of all three. Members whose geographical position prevents their attendance on the meetings may do their part by prompt and willing payment of their dues, and sometimes by such encouraging words of commendation for those who actually perform the labor of the organization and of the production of the organization's official paper as those on the first page of your letter.

As for the subscribers outside the territory of the Association, they are in no way a favored class. It is the addition of the revenue derived from them that enables us to give our own members the service which we do give them in *THE CLASSICAL WEEKLY* for no charge beyond the annual dues. Those subscribers, too, have their own obligations to meet in their own territory. They have their local and their general Classical Associations, The New England Classical Association, The Classical Association of the Middle West and South, etc. Many of those who, from outside our territory, subscribe to *THE CLASSICAL WEEKLY* are members of these other Associations, and the fact that in addition to their local obligations they are willing to subscribe to an extra-territorial periodical like ours should be to us a cause for gratitude and gratification. Our Association should be only too glad to make a concession of price to them, exactly as one of their Associations, The Classical Association of the Middle West and South, makes to our members an

important concession in connection with The Classical Journal.

In closing, I would suggest that there is a way in which you may at one and the same time contribute to the advancement of the cause of the Classics and increase to yourself the pecuniary advantage of membership in The Classical Association of the Atlantic States. According to the Constitution of that Association, any local Classical Club having twenty-five or more joint members with the C.A.A.S. is entitled to a rebate of fifty cents each for each of said joint members. At present there is no such local organization in your neighborhood. Why not start one? Not only those engaged in teaching classical subjects, but many others, e.g. those who have formerly studied the Classics, in short, anyone interested in the Classics, in any way or for any reason, is eligible for such an organization, and I am sure you will never regret the undertaking if you enter upon it with energy and carry it through to success.

It will be interesting to conclude with a statement of the number of subscribers to THE CLASSICAL WEEKLY in various States outside our territory (the list is given as it stood early last spring: there has not been time this fall to check up the list again. The figures in parenthesis give the number of members of The Classical Association of the Middle West and South in the State in question, as published in The Classical Journal for June 1913: see 8.354):

Alabama, 3(20); Arizona, 1; Arkansas, 2(12); California, 45; Colorado, 7(34); Connecticut, 22; Florida, 4(23); Georgia, 4(29); Idaho, 0(12); Illinois, 60(243); Indiana, 26(139); Iowa, 27(142); Kansas, 16(137); Kentucky, 8(62); Louisiana, 0(26); Maine, 5; Massachusetts, 76; Michigan, 22(108); Minnesota, 15(70); Mississippi, 1(20); Missouri, 26(128); Montana, 1; Nebraska, 11(65); Nevada, 3; New Hampshire, 9; New Mexico, 2; North Carolina, 11(21); North Dakota, 4(22); Ohio, 39(200); Oklahoma, 2(15); Oregon, 4; South Carolina, 3(12); South Dakota, 4(19); Tennessee, 12(43); Texas, 27(52); Utah, 3; Vermont, 7; Virginia, 15(35); Washington, 17; West Virginia, 7(12); Wisconsin, 14(100); Wyoming, 2; Foreign, 11. Within our territory the figures were: New York, 291; New Jersey, 79; Pennsylvania, 138; Delaware, 5; Maryland, 38; District of Columbia, 22.

C. K.

CHARACTERIZATION IN TACITUS

Characterization in the historical works of Tacitus has been treated by several writers¹, all of whom agree that he usually employs the indirect method, i.e. avoids personal opinion and estimate.

The two methods, direct and indirect, are best shown in the historians, Thucydides and Xenophon.

Thucydides avoids personal judgment whenever possible. Speeches put into the mouth of characters, or comments made upon them by friend or enemy take the place of a direct statement; sometimes the narrative is so colored that it shows the life and the character of a man. Xenophon, on the other hand, generally used the direct method. In the *Anabasis* he adopts the rather mechanical and clumsy method of appending a life-summary to the notice of death. In the *Hellenica* no characterization of Agesilaus is given because that characterization formed the contents of a separate work. Ephorus also used the direct method, but used it as a criticism upon the life.

This tradition of characterization was adopted by the Romans with little change. Sallust used the direct method to some extent, Livy more freely (compare Seneca, *Suas.* 6. 21). Under the influence of rhetoric, characterization in some writers changed into encomium or *laudatio funebris*. Under the Empire this replaced legitimate biography and history and continued for a century or more as an independent form of literature, and then is joined once more with history in the work of Ammianus Marcellinus.

Such in brief is the tradition which Tacitus had. Most historians had used the indirect method because it gave greater opportunity for variety of treatment, for analysis of motives, and because it was more suited to narrative. Tacitus, as has been said, is included in the list of those who use indirect characterization. But such a statement concerning him is misleading, for it does not tell the whole truth. (1) It does not take into account the large number of direct characterizations. There are not so many in the *Annales* as in the *Historiae*, but even in the *Annales* the number is surprisingly large. (2) It does not show how complex and varied the characterizations of Tacitus are. He was a master of all that rhetoric could teach, and his career as a lawyer had taught him how to organize his material to produce the best effect. Nor does such a statement show how he combines the direct and the indirect method. (3) It gives no idea of the prominence of biographical material in his works, and no intimation of the character of such biographical notices. In one or two cases there are distinct marks of encomium. Merely classifying Tacitus's characterizations as 'indirect' does not show anything of the method used.

In the history of Thucydides the private life of men, their motives and character, have little place except as it had some bearing on the main subject. With Tacitus the personal element is much more prominent. Men and women interested him, and for that reason his history is full of personalities. Besides, biography had become much more prominent in history since the days of Thucydides. Even in the case of persons who appear in the pages

¹ Bruns, *Persönlichkeit in der Geschichtsschreibung der Alten*, 69-83; Fr. Leo, *Die Griechisch-Römische Biographie*, 234-236; Peter, *Wahrheit und Kunst*, 373 (Peter follows Leo and Bruns).